

(a) whether India and Canada have agreed to form a semi-formal mechanism and a joint ministerial committee for a sustained momentum to bilateral relations and to improve the trade between the two countries;

(b) if so, to what extent both Canada and India has agreed to give a boost to the trade between the two countries;

(c) what is the present level of trade between the two countries; and

(d) to what extent it will improve during the current financial year

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) It has been decided to establish a Joint Ministerial Committee headed by the External Affairs Ministers of the two countries to work towards intensifying cooperation in the economic as well as commercial and political fields.

(b) to (d) Both India and Canada attach great importance to the economic and commercial relations between the two countries and it is hoped that the Joint Ministerial Committee would provide the necessary forum to give momentum to bilateral relations particularly in the economic and commercial fields.

The present level of trade between the two countries as per DGCI&S figures for 11 months period (April '96-Feb. '97) is as follows :

|             |   |                 |
|-------------|---|-----------------|
| Exports     | - | Rs. 1112.04 Cr. |
| Imports     | - | Rs. 1003.47 Cr. |
| Total Trade | - | Rs. 2115.51 Cr. |

Improvement in trade will depend on various factors such as market conditions, international competition promotional efforts etc.

| As on 1.5.73 |          |                  | As on 31.12.96 |          |                  |
|--------------|----------|------------------|----------------|----------|------------------|
| Division     | Manpower | Production (TPD) | Company        | Manpower | Production (TPD) |
| 1            | 2        | 3                | 4              | 5        | 6                |
| BCCL         | 179,781  | 56,001           | BCCL           | 143,965  | 99,000           |
| EASTERN      | 174,606  | 69,110           | ECL            | 158,918  | 101,500          |

#### Complaints on Misappropriation of Funds in Purchasing by MTC

6667. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints about misappropriation of funds and bungling in purchasing of articles from Mica Trading Corporation of India Ltd. working under Minerals and Metal Trading Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action against those officers involved in the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### Manpower in Coal India Limited

6668. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of production and manpower in different subsidiaries of Coal India Limited on the date of Nationalisation as compared to that of as on December 31, 1996 per production, Executives, Non-executives, Wagon Loaders, Trammer and U/G Loaders;

(b) whether there is any decline in the manpower in different subsidiaries; and

(c) if so, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The details of production and manpower in different subsidiaries of Coal India Limited on the date of nationalisation i.e. 1.5.73 as compared to that of 31.12.1996 are as under :-